



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: ) Before the Examiner  
Richard A. Hynes ) REIP, David Owen  
Serial No.: 10/099,797 ) Group Art Unit  
Filed: March 15, 2002 ) 3733  
SPINAL FIXATION SYSTEM AND )  
RELATED METHODS ) Monday, December 5, 2005

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Mail Stop: RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicant's undersigned attorney hereby requests that the date for responding to the Advisory Action, dated October 21, 2005, calculated from the date of the Final Office Action, dated August 3, 2005, be extended one month to and including Saturday, December 3, 2005, making a response timely if filed on or before Monday, December 5, 2005. The required fees of \$790.00 for the Request for Continued Examination and \$120.00 for a 1 month extension of time are enclosed herewith. Please charge any deficiency or apply any overpayment credit to Deposit Account No. 23-3030. For the convenience of the Patent Office, we have enclosed the office action which was not entered in the prosecution of this application, but which the Applicant is now requesting be considered in the attached Request for Continued Examination.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop: RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

December 5, 2005  
Date of deposit

Christopher A. Brown

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

Respectfully submitted.

By

Christopher A. Brown, Reg. No. 41.642  
Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty,  
McNett & Henry, LLP  
Bank One Center Tower  
111 Monument Circle, Suite 3700  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-5137  
(317) 634-3456